

Environment Committee

March 05, 2022

Connecticut General Assembly

Legislative Office Building

Hartford, CT 06106

Subject: Testimony in support of HB5291 for Public Hearing March 07, 2022

To <envtestimony@cga.ct.gov>

Dear Members of the Environmental Committee,

Available trails in Connecticut are being highly used, mainly for recreation but with a significant use by people commuting to work or going shopping. There are many who do not have cars and need a safe bicycling alternative where and when there is not bus service. During the past two COVID years many have found trails the safest place to be.

Trails and Greenways could become a great asset for Connecticut drawing tourists as well as High Tech. businesses whose employees want the option of Bicycling safely to work as well as recreational opportunities that trails and Greenways offer.

This important bill would increase the bond authorization for the Recreational Trails and Greenways Grants program to \$6 million. For the fall of 2021 3 million was available and made in grants out of about 22 million in applications. There were many more worthy applications.

Please keep our Trails and Greenway program progressing by authorizing the bonding of \$6 million for the coming physical year.

Respectfully yours,

Robert L Dickinson

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Member of CT Greenways Council and South Windsor Walk and Wheel Ways